Shortage of dwelling units

*14. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, at present, country faces a shortage of over 20 million dwelling units;

(b) if so, whether Government are thinking of providing the right policy and reform impetus coupled with other infrastructural inputs so that maximum number of persons, especially belonging to lower strata of society, could be provided this basic necessity; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time frame?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (c) As per the projections made by the Working Group for the Ninth Plan, a total of 16.76 million units would have to be constructed in the urban areas during the Ninth Plan period for covering housing shortage.

The National Housing & Habitat Policy, 1998 laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 29.7.1998 envisages Government's role as an enabler rather than builder. Government aims to create an enabling environment by removing the legal, regulatory, technical, and financial constraints facing the housing sector. The State Governments are required to draw their own action plans to address the housing problems in their States.

Housing is a State subject. However, in order to facilitate construction of adequate housing facilities, particularly for EWS and LIG, Government of India has launched the Two Million Housing Programme under which construction of 7 lakh houses in urban areas and 13 lakh in rural areas every year will be facilitated through State Government agencies on a demand-driven approach. A new scheme called Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana has been announced which plans to construct 4 lakh dwelling units per year in urban areas for slum dwellers. At the present rate of shelter delivery, it may require atleast another 15 years by which the shelter needs of the poor in all States will be largely met.

Infantile Mortality Rate

*15. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) which State leads the States in terms of high Infantile Mortality Rate;

(b) the IMR per thousand births in each State; and

(c) the special steps being taken to bring down IMR in different States?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) The State of Orissa registered the highest infant mortality rate of 97 per thousand live births in 1999. The Statement on Infant Mortality Rate, State/UT-wise in descending order is laid on the table of the House (*See* below).

(c) Under the Reproductive and Child Health Programme, various measures are being taken to reduce the Infant Mortality Rate. These include immunization against six vaccine preventable diseases; appropriate management of cases of diarrhoea and acute respiratory infections, provision of essential newborn care, promotion of nutritional status of children through advocacy of exclusive breastfeeding and appropriate complementary feeding practices and prophylaxis against Vitamin A and Iron deficiency.

Statement

Infant Mortality Rate-1999

S.No.	All India	70
1.	Orissa	97
2.	Madhya Pradesh	90
3.	Uttar Pradesh	84
4.	Rajasthan	81
5.	Chhattisgarh	78
6.	Assam	76
7.	Jharkhand	71
8.	Haryana	68
9.	Andhra Pradesh	66
10.	Bihar	63
11.	Gujarat	63

S.No.	All India	70
12.	Himachal Pradesh	62
13.	Karnataka	58
14.	Meghalaya	56
15.	Dadar & N Haveli	56
16.	Punjab	53
17.	Tamil Nadu	52
18.	West Bengal	52
19.	Uttaranchal	52
20.	Sikkim	49
21.	Maharashtra	48
22.	Arunachal Pradesh	43
23.	Tripura	42
24.	Daman & Diu	35
25.	Lakshadweep	32
26.	Delhi	31
27.	Chandigarh	28
28.	Manipur	25
29.	Andaman & N Island	25
30.	Pondicherry	22
31.	Goa	21
32.	Mizoram	19
33.	Kerala	14
34.	Jammu & Kashmir	NA
35.	Nagaland	NA

SOURCE: O/o Registrar General of India.